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TAGS: [PREL](#) [UN](#) [UNMIK](#) [YI](#) [MU](#)  
SUBJECT: LOBBYING FOR KOSOVO INDEPENDENCE: OMAN

REF: A. STATE 13716

[1](#)B. MUSCAT 00045

Classified By: DCM Alfred F. Fonteneau for Reasons 1.4 (b, d)

(C) Deputy Chief of Mission delivered ref A demarche on February 12 to Mohammad al-Hassan, Director of Political Affairs for Minister Responsible for Foreign Affairs Yusef bin Alawi. Al Hassan repeated his earlier assertion that Oman had no objection in principle to a declaration of independence by Kosovo (ref B). However, he stressed that Oman was unlikely to formally recognize such a move in advance of other GCC states, as this was a "European problem" that did not concern Oman directly. If the U.S. wanted quick recognition of Kosovo's independence by Oman and other Arab states, al-Hassan recommended that the U.S. and European nations lobby both the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) and the Arab League to place the issue on the agenda for their upcoming summits (March 8-14 and March 29-30, respectively). A consensus recommendation by either body in favor of Kosovo's declaration would greatly facilitate prompt recognition by Oman and other states of Kosovo's independence from Serbia.  
GRAPPO